<u>SSB 5179</u> - H AMD **437** By Representative Buck

ADOPTED 04/23/2003

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW 4 to read as follows:

- (1) The legislature finds that a professionally managed and regulated trapping program is not only vital to the health of Washington's wildlife populations, but is also consistent with the state's obligations to manage all natural resources in trust for the common good of all citizens.
- (2) The legislature further finds that it is in the interest of all of the citizens of Washington to ensure that all trapping is done in accordance with sound scientific wildlife management principles using humane methods as set forth in this act. It is the legislature's intent to implement a sound furbearer management program, administered using sound science by the department of fish and wildlife, that addresses an animal problem as defined in RCW 77.08.010.
- (3) The legislature further finds that humanely regulated trapping practices used to control animal problems contribute positively to the economic well-being of the state of Washington, to public health and welfare by assisting to control the spread of animal-borne disease, and to the protection of private and public property from damage resulting from uncontrolled animal populations.
- (4) The legislature further finds that the sale, trade, or barter of wild animal pelts is consistent with the legislature's intent not to waste a valuable wildlife resource.
- (5) The legislature recognizes that among the choices available for the trapping of animals, some may cause pain and suffering in the animals captured. The legislature further recognizes that some trapping methods can capture animals that are not targeted, including pets. It is the policy of the state of Washington to minimize the use

- of indiscriminate or painful traps and to use all traps humanely. When
- 2 lethal trapping methods are used, such methods must be used in the most
- 3 humane way that accomplishes the goal of reducing animal problems. All
- 4 trappers in the state should use all practicable means necessary to
- 5 avoid the capture of a nontargeted animal.

Sec. 2. RCW 77.08.010 and 2002 c 281 s 2 are each amended to read 7 as follows:

As used in this title or rules adopted under this title, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

- (1) "Director" means the director of fish and wildlife.
 - (2) "Department" means the department of fish and wildlife.
 - (3) "Commission" means the state fish and wildlife commission.
- (4) "Person" means and includes an individual; a corporation; a public or private entity or organization; a local, state, or federal agency; all business organizations, including corporations and partnerships; or a group of two or more individuals acting with a common purpose whether acting in an individual, representative, or official capacity.
- (5) "Fish and wildlife officer" means a person appointed and commissioned by the director, with authority to enforce this title and rules adopted pursuant to this title, and other statutes as prescribed by the legislature. Fish and wildlife officer includes a person commissioned before June 11, 1998, as a wildlife agent or a fisheries patrol officer.
- (6) "Ex officio fish and wildlife officer" means a commissioned officer of a municipal, county, state, or federal agency having as its primary function the enforcement of criminal laws in general, while the officer is in the appropriate jurisdiction. The term "ex officio fish and wildlife officer" includes special agents of the national marine fisheries service, state parks commissioned officers, United States fish and wildlife special agents, department of natural resources enforcement officers, and United States forest service officers, while the agents and officers are within their respective jurisdictions.
- 34 (7) "To hunt" and its derivatives means an effort to kill, injure, 35 capture, or harass a wild animal or wild bird.

1 (8) "To trap" and its derivatives means a method of hunting using 2 devices to capture wild animals or wild birds.

- (9) "To fish," "to harvest," and "to take," and their derivatives means an effort to kill, injure, harass, or catch a fish or shellfish.
- (10) "Open season" means those times, manners of taking, and places or waters established by rule of the commission for the lawful hunting, fishing, taking, or possession of game animals, game birds, game fish, food fish, or shellfish that conform to the special restrictions or physical descriptions established by rule of the commission or that have otherwise been deemed legal to hunt, fish, take, harvest, or possess by rule of the commission. "Open season" includes the first and last days of the established time.
- (11) "Closed season" means all times, manners of taking, and places or waters other than those established by rule of the commission as an open season. "Closed season" also means all hunting, fishing, taking, or possession of game animals, game birds, game fish, food fish, or shellfish that do not conform to the special restrictions or physical descriptions established by rule of the commission as an open season or that have not otherwise been deemed legal to hunt, fish, take, harvest, or possess by rule of the commission as an open season.
- (12) "Closed area" means a place where the hunting of some or all species of wild animals or wild birds is prohibited.
- (13) "Closed waters" means all or part of a lake, river, stream, or other body of water, where fishing or harvesting is prohibited.
- (14) "Game reserve" means a closed area where hunting for all wild animals and wild birds is prohibited.
- (15) "Bag limit" means the maximum number of game animals, game birds, or game fish which may be taken, caught, killed, or possessed by a person, as specified by rule of the commission for a particular period of time, or as to size, sex, or species.
- (16) "Wildlife" means all species of the animal kingdom whose members exist in Washington in a wild state. This includes but is not limited to mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates. The term "wildlife" does not include feral domestic mammals, old world rats and mice of the family Muridae of the order Rodentia, or those fish, shellfish, and marine invertebrates classified

as food fish or shellfish by the director. The term "wildlife" includes all stages of development and the bodily parts of wildlife members.

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- (17) "Wild animals" means those species of the class Mammalia whose members exist in Washington in a wild state and the species Rana catesbeiana (bullfrog). The term "wild animal" does not include feral domestic mammals or old world rats and mice of the family Muridae of the order Rodentia.
- 9 (18) "Wild birds" means those species of the class Aves whose 10 members exist in Washington in a wild state.
- 11 (19) "Protected wildlife" means wildlife designated by the 12 commission that shall not be hunted or fished.
- 13 (20) "Endangered species" means wildlife designated by the commission as seriously threatened with extinction.
- 15 (21) "Game animals" means wild animals that shall not be hunted 16 except as authorized by the commission.
- 17 (22) "Fur-bearing animals" means game animals that shall not be 18 trapped except as authorized by the commission.
- 19 (23) "Game birds" means wild birds that shall not be hunted except 20 as authorized by the commission.
- 21 (24) "Predatory birds" means wild birds that may be hunted 22 throughout the year as authorized by the commission.
- 23 (25) "Deleterious exotic wildlife" means species of the animal 24 kingdom not native to Washington and designated as dangerous to the 25 environment or wildlife of the state.
 - (26) "Game farm" means property on which wildlife is held or raised for commercial purposes, trade, or gift. The term "game farm" does not include publicly owned facilities.
- 29 (27) "Person of disability" means a permanently disabled person who 30 is not ambulatory without the assistance of a wheelchair, crutches, or 31 similar devices.
- 32 (28) "Fish" includes all species classified as game fish or food 33 fish by statute or rule, as well as all fin fish not currently 34 classified as food fish or game fish if such species exist in state 35 waters. The term "fish" includes all stages of development and the 36 bodily parts of fish species.

- (29) "Raffle" means an activity in which tickets bearing an individual number are sold for not more than twenty-five dollars each and in which a permit or permits are awarded to hunt or for access to hunt big game animals or wild turkeys on the basis of a drawing from the tickets by the person or persons conducting the raffle.
- (30) "Youth" means a person fifteen years old for fishing and under sixteen years old for hunting.
 - (31) "Senior" means a person seventy years old or older.

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- 9 (32) "License year" means the period of time for which a 10 recreational license is valid. The license year begins April 1st, and 11 ends March 31st.
 - (33) "Saltwater" means those marine waters seaward of river mouths.
- 13 (34) "Freshwater" means all waters not defined as saltwater 14 including, but not limited to, rivers upstream of the river mouth, 15 lakes, ponds, and reservoirs.
 - (35) "State waters" means all marine waters and fresh waters within ordinary high water lines and within the territorial boundaries of the state.
 - (36) "Offshore waters" means marine waters of the Pacific Ocean outside the territorial boundaries of the state, including the marine waters of other states and countries.
- 22 (37) "Concurrent waters of the Columbia river" means those waters 23 of the Columbia river that coincide with the Washington-Oregon state 24 boundary.
 - (38) "Resident" means a person who has maintained a permanent place of abode within the state for at least ninety days immediately preceding an application for a license, has established by formal evidence an intent to continue residing within the state, and who is not licensed to hunt or fish as a resident in another state.
- 30 (39) "Nonresident" means a person who has not fulfilled the 31 qualifications of a resident.
- 32 (40) "Shellfish" means those species of marine and freshwater 33 invertebrates that have been classified and that shall not be taken 34 except as authorized by rule of the commission. The term "shellfish" 35 includes all stages of development and the bodily parts of shellfish 36 species.

- 1 (41) "Commercial" means related to or connected with buying, 2 selling, or bartering.
- 3 (42) "To process" and its derivatives mean preparing or preserving fish, wildlife, or shellfish.
- 5 (43) "Personal use" means for the private use of the individual 6 taking the fish or shellfish and not for sale or barter.
- 7 (44) "Angling gear" means a line attached to a rod and reel capable 8 of being held in hand while landing the fish or a hand-held line 9 operated without rod or reel.
- 10 (45) "Fishery" means the taking of one or more particular species 11 of fish or shellfish with particular gear in a particular geographical 12 area.
- 13 (46) "Limited-entry license" means a license subject to a license 14 limitation program established in chapter 77.70 RCW.
 - (47) "Seaweed" means marine aquatic plant species that are dependent upon the marine aquatic or tidal environment, and exist in either an attached or free floating form, and includes but is not limited to marine aquatic plants in the classes Chlorophyta, Phaeophyta, and Rhodophyta.
- 20 (48) "Trafficking" means offering, attempting to engage, or 21 engaging in sale, barter, or purchase of fish, shellfish, wildlife, or 22 deleterious exotic wildlife.
- 23 (49) "Invasive species" means a plant species or a nonnative animal species that either:
 - (a) Causes or may cause displacement of, or otherwise threatens, native species in their natural communities;
- 27 (b) Threatens or may threaten natural resources or their use in the 28 state;
- 29 (c) Causes or may cause economic damage to commercial or 30 recreational activities that are dependent upon state waters; or
 - (d) Threatens or harms human health.

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- 32 (50) "Prohibited aquatic animal species" means an invasive species 33 of the animal kingdom that has been classified as a prohibited aquatic 34 animal species by the commission.
- 35 (51) "Regulated aquatic animal species" means a potentially 36 invasive species of the animal kingdom that has been classified as a 37 regulated aquatic animal species by the commission.

(52) "Unregulated aquatic animal species" means a nonnative animal species that has been classified as an unregulated aquatic animal species by the commission.

- (53) "Unlisted aquatic animal species" means a nonnative animal species that has not been classified as a prohibited aquatic animal species, a regulated aquatic animal species, or an unregulated aquatic animal species by the commission.
- (54) "Aquatic plant species" means an emergent, submersed, partially submersed, free-floating, or floating-leaving plant species that grows in or near a body of water or wetland.
- 11 (55) "Body-gripping trap" means a steel trap that grips an animal's

 12 body or body part, including steel-jawed foothold trap, neck snare, or

 13 foot snare.
- 14 <u>(56) "Raw fur" means a pelt that has not been processed for</u> 15 <u>purposes of retail sale.</u>
- 16 (57) "Animal problem" means damage, injury, or reasonable threat of
 17 damage or injury, caused by furbearing mammals, unclassified wildlife,
 18 or deleterious exotic wildlife to: Public or private property or
 19 resources; livestock or other domestic animals; or human health or
 20 safety.
 - (58) "Nuisance wildlife" means moles, mice, rats, mountain beavers, gophers, nutria, and other wildlife so designated by the commission by rule.
 - (59) "Nuisance bird problem" means damage, injury, or reasonable threat of damage or injury, caused by avian species to: Public or private property or resources; human health; or public safety.
 - (60) "Programmatic trapping permit" means a permit issued by the director for the following purposes: (a) For furbearer management unit purposes; (b) to prevent damage or injury, or a reasonable threat of damage or injury, to (i) public or private property or resources; (ii) livestock or other domestic animals; (iii) agricultural, timber, and horticultural resources; (iv) human health or safety; or (v) other purposes so designated by the commission by rule.
- 34 (61) "Conditional use trapping permit" means an emergency permit,
 35 limited to specific times, purposes, and areas, issued by the director
 36 to address unanticipated and immediate damage or injury to public or

- private property or resources or other purposes designated by the commission by rule.
- 3 (62) "Restricted use trapping permit" means a permit issued by the
 4 director to protect either sensitive or endangered species and habitat,
 5 or both, or other purposes designated by the commission by rule.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 77.15.194 and 2001 c 1 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:
- It is the duty of every trapper to ensure that all trapping is done humanely. To ensure that this goal is met, all trappers must abide by the following:

- (1) It is unlawful to use or authorize the use of any ((steel-jawed leghold trap, neck snare, or other)) body-gripping trap to capture any mammal ((for recreation or commerce in fur)) without a permit issued by the director, except no trap with teeth or serrated edges may be permitted. The director may only issue a permit under this section for the purposes of addressing an animal problem, nuisance bird problem, capturing live raptors for falconry, for furbearer management program needs, or for conducting scientific research.
- (2) It is unlawful to knowingly buy, sell, barter, or otherwise exchange, or offer to buy, sell, barter, or otherwise exchange the raw fur of a mammal or a mammal that has been trapped in ((this state with a steel-jawed leghold trap or any other body gripping trap, whether or not pursuant to permit.
- (3) It is unlawful to use or authorize the use of any steel-jawed leghold trap or any other body-gripping trap to capture any animal, except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section.
- (4) Nothing in this section prohibits the use of a Conibear trap in water, a padded leghold trap, or a nonstrangling type foot snare with a special permit granted by [the] director under (a) through (d) of this subsection. Issuance of the special permits shall be governed by rules adopted by the department and in accordance with the requirements of this section. Every person granted a special permit to use a trap or device listed in this subsection shall check the trap or device at least every twenty-four hours.
- (a) Nothing in this section prohibits the director, in consultation with the department of social and health services or the United States

department of health and human services from granting a permit to use traps listed in this subsection for the purpose of protecting people from threats to their health and safety.

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(b) Nothing in this section prohibits the director from granting a special permit to use traps listed in this subsection to a person who applies for such a permit in writing, and who establishes that there exists on a property an animal problem that has not been and cannot be reasonably abated by the use of nonlethal control tools, including but not limited to guard animals, electric fencing, or box and cage traps, or if such nonlethal means cannot be reasonably applied. Upon making a finding in writing that the animal problem has not been and cannot be reasonably abated by nonlethal control tools or if the tools cannot be reasonably applied, the director may authorize the use, setting, placing, or maintenance of the traps for a period not to exceed thirty days.

(c) Nothing in this section prohibits the director from granting a special permit to department employees or agents to use traps listed in this subsection where the use of the traps is the only practical means of protecting threatened or endangered species as designated under RCW 77.08.010.

(d) Nothing in this section prohibits the director from issuing a permit to use traps listed in this subsection, excluding Conibear traps, for the conduct of legitimate wildlife research.

(5) Nothing in this section prohibits the United States fish and wildlife service, its employees or agents, from using a trap listed in subsection (4) of this section where the fish and wildlife service determines, in consultation with the director, that the use of such traps is necessary to protect species listed as threatened or endangered under the federal endangered species act (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq.)) violation of subsection (1) of this section. To prevent wastage, nothing in this section prohibits the sale, barter, or trade of an animal carcass or pelt, or the donation of an animal carcass or pelt for scientific research or public health training lawfully taken under this title.

(3)(a) All trapping of wild animals using body-gripping traps must be conducted by trappers licensed by the department under RCW 77.65.450, under a permit from the director, and in accordance with the

- 1 rules developed by the commission as they relate to wildlife trapping.
- 2 However, nothing in this section prohibits the use of commonly used
- 3 traps by public or private property owners or their agents operating on
- 4 their property to control the following nuisance wildlife: Moles,
- 5 mice, rats, mountain beavers, gophers, and nutria.
- 6 (b) Furbearing mammals may not be taken from the wild and held
 7 alive for sale or personal use. All trapping of furbearing mammals
 8 must be conducted in furtherance of a wildlife trapping program being
 9 implemented by the department for an animal problem, for scientific
 10 research, or for mammal population management as defined by the
- 11 commission by rule.
 - (c) Wildlife unintentionally trapped while trapping to manage an animal problem, or while conducting scientific research, must, if possible, be released unharmed immediately upon discovery. The commission may adopt by rule or guideline procedures for the handling
 - commission may adopt by rule or guideline procedures for the handli
- of any animal that is unable to be released unharmed.

for the humane dispatch of captured animals.

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- (d) Lawfully trapped wild animals, if not intended for release,
 must be humanely dispatched, or if intended for release, must be either
 immediately released or immediately taken to a rehabilitation center,
 if necessary. The commission may adopt by rule or guideline procedures
 - (4)(a) It is unlawful for a licensed trapper to fail to complete and submit to the department a report of catch postmarked on or before April 20th of each year. The report must be submitted to the department regardless of trapping success, and indicate the number, general location, and species of all animals captured, including those animals captured that were not part of an animal problem. The report must also include details for domestic pets captured in traps, the circumstances for each specific incident, and if the domestic pet was injured or released unharmed. Trappers who fail to submit an accurate report of catch shall have their trapping privileges suspended for one year. False reports are considered failure to report. It is the responsibility of each licensed trapper to obtain and submit a report of catch on forms provided by the department.
- 35 <u>(b) The department shall maintain and analyze all catch reports</u> 36 received pursuant to (a) of this subsection. Data collected on catch

- reports must be presented to the appropriate legislative committees by
 November 30th of each year.
- (5) Federal wildlife management agencies and their employees and agents, while acting lawfully within the scope of their authority, are not subject to the provisions of this section.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW 7 to read as follows:
- The commission shall adopt appropriate rules regarding the types of 8 traps and bait for use in capturing wildlife to ensure the humane 9 treatment of captured animals. In adopting these rules, the commission 10 11 may take into consideration the effectiveness of various trap sizes, 12 approved best management practices, and the habitats in which the traps may be used. These rules must address the time intervals during which 13 specific traps must be checked and animals removed. These rules may 14 15 not allow for the use of traps with teeth or serrated edges or a neck 16 or body snare attached to a spring pole or any spring pole type device. 17 The commission must also adopt rules for the appropriate disposal of 18 carcasses.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 77.12 RCW 20 to read as follows:
- The department shall institute a furbearer management program that addresses animal problems and shall only issue programmatic trapping, conditional use, or restricted use trapping permits, as those terms are defined in RCW 77.08.010, and trapping licenses or propose rules consistent with this program.
- 26 **Sec. 6.** RCW 77.65.450 and 1991 sp.s. c 7 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:
- A state trapping license <u>in combination with a programmatic</u>
 trapping permit, conditional use trapping permit, or restricted use
 trapping permit from the director allows the holder to trap fur-bearing
 animals throughout the state <u>in accordance with the rules adopted by</u>
 the commission under section 4 of this act; however, a trapper may not
 place traps on <u>public or private property without permission</u> of the
 owner, lessee, or tenant where the land is improved and apparently

used, or where the land is fenced or enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders or to indicate a property boundary line, or where notice is given by posting in a conspicuous manner. A state trapping license is void on April 1st following the date of issuance. for this license is thirty-six dollars for residents sixteen years of age or older, ((fifteen)) twenty dollars for residents under sixteen years of age, and ((one)) two hundred ((eighty)) dollars for nonresidents. Licensed trappers age fifteen years and younger must be under the direct supervision of a licensed adult trapper when engaged in trapping activities. The fee for a programmatic trapping permit for residents sixteen years of age or older and nonresidents, for animal problems as that term is defined in RCW 77.08.010, is twelve dollars and fifty cents. A trapping license is valid for using body-gripping traps in combination with a permit for the control of animal problems, as that term is defined in RCW 77.08.010, or for scientific research. The live capture of raptors for falconry, or scientific research, by use of a foot snare or other body-gripping trap may also be authorized by rule of the commission.

Sec. 7. RCW 77.65.460 and 1987 c 506 s 82 are each amended to read 20 as follows:

All persons purchasing a state trapping license ((for the first time)) after April 1, 2003, shall ((present certification of completion of)) complete a course of instruction in safe, humane, and proper trapping techniques or pass an examination to establish that the applicant has the requisite knowledge. Licensed trappers who have been active in state-regulated trapping since November 2000 are exempt from this provision.

The director shall establish a program for training persons in trapping techniques and responsibilities in urban, suburban, and rural settings, including the use of trapping devices designed to painlessly capture or instantly kill. The director shall cooperate with ((national and state animal, humane)) recognized Washington state based animal shelters, wildlife rehabilitation centers, and similar entities providing animal care and rehabilitation services, hunter education, and Washington state based trapping organizations in the development and instruction of ((a curriculum)) trapper training. Upon successful

completion of the course, trainees shall receive a trapper's training certificate signed by an authorized instructor. This certificate is evidence of compliance with this section.

Sec. 8. RCW 77.32.545 and 1998 c 190 s 121 are each amended to read as follows:

A property owner, lessee, or tenant may remove a trap placed on the owner's, lessee's, or tenant's posted or fenced property by a trapper. A property owner, lessee, or tenant who discovers a trap placed on any portion of his or her property that is not authorized by the owner, lessee, or tenant, may report the finding to the department, including whether a live animal is captured in the trap. The commission may adopt by rule or guideline procedures for the handling of live animals discovered in such traps.

Trappers shall attach to the chain of their traps or devices a legible metal tag with either the department identification number of the trapper or the name and address of the trapper in English letters not less than one-eighth inch in height.

When a property owner, lessee, or tenant presents a trapper identification number to the department for a trap found upon the property of the owner, lessee, or tenant and requests identification of the trapper, the department shall provide the requestor with the name and address of the trapper. Prior to disclosure of the trapper's name and address, the department shall obtain the name and address of the requesting individual in writing and after disclosing the trapper's name and address to the requesting individual, the requesting individual's name and address shall be disclosed in writing to the trapper whose name and address was disclosed.

Sec. 9. RCW 77.15.198 and 2001 c 1 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

Any person who violates RCW 77.15.194 or 77.15.196 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. In addition to appropriate criminal penalties, the director shall revoke the trapping license of any person convicted of a <u>repeat</u> violation of RCW 77.15.194 or 77.15.196. The director shall not issue the violator a trapping license for a period of five years following the revocation. ((Following a subsequent conviction for a

- 1 violation of RCW 77.15.194 or 77.15.196 by the same person, the
- 2 director shall not issue a trapping license to the person at any time))
- 3 A person may not be granted a new trapping license following a
- 4 revocation under this section unless that person completes the
- 5 <u>education program outlined in RCW 77.65.460 not more than one year</u>
- 6 <u>before a new license is granted</u>.
- 7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 10.** RCW 77.15.192 (Definitions) and 2001 c 1 s
- 8 2 are each repealed.
- 9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. This act is necessary for the immediate
- 10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
- 11 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
- 12 immediately."
- 13 Correct the title.

--- END ---